



# NEWS RELEASE

**Today's Date:** Wednesday, April 20, 2011

**District:** District 2 - Redding

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Don't Trash California

**REDDING** – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 2 will join eleven other Caltrans districts statewide for an all out litter clean up day on Friday, April 22, 2011, coinciding with "Earth Day."

Every year it costs California taxpayers millions for cleanup and disposal of trash along roadsides. Caltrans alone spent more than \$50 million last fiscal year for litter removal on State highways. Over 141,000 cubic yards of litter (about 8,860 garbage truckloads) were collected and disposed of by Caltrans last year.

"It's not only unsightly," said District 2 Director John Bulinski, "It can jeopardize the safety of motorists and our highway workers tasked to clean it."

District 2 maintenance crews, along with the help of Adopt-A-Highway volunteers, cleaned approximately 4,000 lane miles of roadway within the seven counties of Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama and Trinity at a cost of approximately \$250,000 last year.

We can all make a difference and help keep California beautiful:

- Carry a trash bag in your vehicle and dispose of it properly.
- When hauling items in an open trailer or truck bed make sure to cover it and securely tie it down.
- The number one trash item found along highways; cigarette butts.
- In California, it is a misdemeanor to throw anything from a moving vehicle. Fines range up to \$1,000 and 24 hours of community service.
- Adopt-A-Highway efforts save California taxpayers more than \$15 million each year.

One of the best ways to help is to become an Adopt-A-Highway volunteer. For more information on Adopt-A-Highway visit [caltrans2.info](http://caltrans2.info) or to find an available adoption site, contact Saedra Wederbrook at 530-225-3277.

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**NOTE:** An electronic version of this news release is available on the Internet at the following web address: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist2/news.htm>